

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of:

LEVSEN, CLARK A.

Serial No.: 10/709,210

Filed: April 21, 2004

**DUAL OPERATION TRIPE WASHING
AND REFINING MACHINE**

Docket No. 34379

Confirmation No.: 3209

Group Art Unit No. 3643

Customer No.: 23589

Examiner: PARSLEY, David J.

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

AMENDMENT

In response to the Office Action of March 3, 2006, it is respectfully requested that this Amendment be entered in the above-referenced application.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 12 of this paper.

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph found in the abstract with the following rewritten paragraph:

A tripe washing and refining apparatus (10) ~~including~~ includes a base (20), a vessel (14), and a motor (16) ~~is disclosed~~. The vessel (14) includes a selectively reversible rotatable disc (30) and two baffles (32,34) extending from an annular side wall (24) above the disc (30). Disc projections (40,42,44) extend from an upper surface (38) of the disc (30) and present opposed washing (48) and refining (50) surfaces, ~~wherein the washing surface (48) is substantially smooth and the refining surface (50) is gritted~~. The baffles (32,34) likewise present opposed washing (60) and refining (62) surfaces. ~~When the rotating disc (30) is rotated in a first direction, the~~ The washing surfaces of the disc projections (40,42,44) and the baffles (32,34) engage the tripe to agitate and wash it. ~~When the rotating disc (30) is rotated in a second direction, the~~ The refining surfaces of the disc projections (40,42,44) and the baffles (32,34) engage the tripe to remove fat or other components from its exterior. ~~The apparatus (10) further includes a washing fluid inlet nozzle (70), a refining fluid inlet nozzle (72), and a cold water inlet nozzle (74) for introducing fluids into the vessel (14) during tripe washing and refining cycles.~~